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TO AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE 6239-40
AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE 9118-19
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE 0456-57
INFO AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE PRIORITY 1798-99
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
CNO WASHDC PRIORITY

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (ADDEE)

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: OREP ASEC, KS, CH, JA
SUBJECT: CODEL BINGAMAN

1. SENATOR JEFF BINGAMAN (D-NM), A MEMBER OF THE SENATE
ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE, WILL TRAVEL TO CHINA KOREA
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AND JAPAN DURING THE PERIOD AUGUST 15-SEPTEMBER 2.
SENATOR BINGAMAN WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE AND

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SON, AS WELL AS TWO PERSONAL STAFF MEMBERS, PATRICK VON BARGEN CHIEF OF STAFF, AND STEVE CLEMONS, SENIOR POLICY ADVISOR. CAPT. BILLY LEWIS, NAVY LIAISON OFFICE WILL ESCORT THE CODEL. HE MAY BE CONTACTED AT (W) 202/224-4681; (H) 703/569-3382; (FAX) 202/685-6005.

2. TENTATIVE ITINERARY:

MON 8/14 0720 LV WASHDC UA-187 AR SAN FRANCISCO 0949
MON 8/14 1210 LV SAN FRANCISCO UA-819 AR TOKYO 1455 8/15
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THU 8/24 1145 LV SHANGHAI OZ-3345 AR SEOUL 1420
MON 8/28 1650 LV SEOUL UA-826 AR TOKYO 1900
(TRAVEL VIA TRAIN TO OSAKA)
SUN 9/3 1800 LV OSAKA KANSAI UA-81N AR SAN FRANCISCO
1140.

3. CODEL'S INTERESTS ARE PROVIDED BELOW:

-- CODEL WOULD LIKE GET A SENSE OF THE SECURITY AND ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT OF THE ASIA REGION AS A WHOLE, FOCUSING ON CHINA'S AND JAPAN'S RESPECTIVE ROLES. MEETINGS WITH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN EXPERTS -- BOTH FROM THE RESPECTIVE NATIONS CODEL WILL VISIT, AND FROM THE AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES WOULD BE USEFUL. CODEL IS INTERESTED IN WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH THE ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM AND ANY OTHER MULTILATERAL SECURITY APPARATUS. CODEL WOULD LIKE TO REVIEW THE SPRATLEY SITUATION AND DISCUSS CHINA'S NEW EXTERNAL ASSERTIVENESS AND THE

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IMPLICATIONS FOR REGIONAL SECURITY.

-- CODEL IS INTERESTED IN THE ISSUE OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL INTEGRATION. CODEL IS FAMILIAR WITH THE ARGUMENTS OF WHY SUCH INTEGRATION IS DIFFICULT AND OFTEN CONSIDERED TO BE MORE FAD THAN REALITY, BUT THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT A GREATER SENSE OF SHARED IDENTITY EXISTS ACROSS THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION TODAY THAN FIVE YEARS AGO. MEETINGS WITH INTELLECTUALS AND BUSINESS PERSONS MAY BE USEFUL IN DISCUSSING REGIONALISM. DOES THE U.S. LOSE AS THE REGION BECOMES MORE INTEGRATED? WHAT ARE IMPRESSIONS OF THE U.S. BY OTHER NATIONAL, POLITICAL AND BUSINESS LEADERS IN THE REGION? HOW DO THESE IMPRESSIONS COMPARE TO JAPAN, CHINA, RUSSIA, EUROPE?

-- CODEL IS INTERESTED IN THE COMPARATIVE COSTS OF DOING

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BUSINESS IN EACH OF THESE REGIONS. WHAT IS THE MAGNET DRAWING AMERICAN, EUROPEAN, AND JAPANESE MANUFACTURING CAPACITY INTO THE ASIA-PACIFIC? CODEL WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS TAX POLICY AND TAX WAIVERS, LABOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL CODES AND THEIR ENFORCEMENT, FINANCING MECHANISMS FOR BUSINESS, ETC. CODEL IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING THIS SUBJECT WITH PRINCIPLES IN KOREA AND CHINA.

-- CODEL WOULD LIKE TO GET A SENSE OF CHINA'S AGENDA AND FUTURE. DOES IT WANT TO BE A TYPICAL SUPERPOWER SOME DAY? A REGIONAL HEGEMON WITH JAPAN? WITHOUT JAPAN? WITH THE U.S. ENGAGED? WITHOUT THE U.S. ENGAGED? HOW WILL IT CONTINUE TO FUEL ITS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IF NOT THROUGH EXPORTS? WHY THE BRINKMANSHIP?

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-- IN CHINA, THERE ARE BREWING PROBLEMS ON SEVERAL FRONTS. MISSILES TO PAKISTAN AND NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY EXPORTS TO IRAN RANK VERY HIGH ON CODEL'S CONCERN LIST. CODEL SHOULD BE ABLE TO DISCUSS THESE MATTERS, IN THE

CONTEXT OF THE OVERALL RELATIONSHIP. IF THE HARRY WU SITUATION HAS NOT BEEN RESOLVED BY THE TIME OF CODEL'S ARRIVAL AND NO AMERICAN STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED PERMISSION TO SEE WU, THEN CODEL SHOULD MAKE AN OFFICIAL REQUEST FOR SENATOR BINGAMAN TO MEET WITH WU. CODEL SHOULD ALSO PROBABLY SEE THE CURRENT AMBASSADOR OF CHINA (PRESENTLY ON LEAVE) CURRENTLY HOUSED IN BEIJING.

-- CODEL WOULD LIKE TO SEE MANUFACTURING PLANTS IN THE HIGH-TECH SECTORS OF EACH OF THE COUNTRIES WE ARE DEVELOPING AND WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH BOTH INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS INVOLVED IN MANAGING INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT. IN KOREA, CODEL WOULD LIKE TO SEE ONE OF THE MAJOR CHAEBOL MANUFACTURING PLANTS. IN CHINA, A VISIT WITH THE OFFICIALS RUNNING "NORTHERN INDUSTRIES" WOULD BE INTERESTING. IN SHANGHAI, CODEL WOULD LIKE TO SEE BOTH LOCAL STATE RUN OPERATIONS AS WELL AS THOSE "UP THE RIVER" THAT WORKERS RUN ON WEEKENDS WITH LITTLE GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT.

-- CODEL IS INTERESTED IN REFORM OF CORRUPTION IN KOREA AND, PARTICULARLY, CHINA. CODEL REQUESTS A MEETING WITH JIANG ZIMIN IN CHINA, AND PERHAPS HIS ANTI-CORRUPTION

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-- CODEL WOULD LIKE TO GET A SENSE OF HOW CHINA, SOUTH
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CHRISTOPHER

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